REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Beginning with the Office action dated October 3, 2007, and reaffirmed in the Office actions of April 14, 2008 & October 20, 2008, Claims 23-27 and 29-31 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this amendment, Claims 23-27 and 29-31 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the respective base claim and any intervening claims as reflected in their Amendment dated July 11, 2007. Applicants removed amended language incorporated into the independent claims after July 11, 2007 since it makes no sense to include additional limitations not related to patentability. Claims 23-27 and 29-31, as currently amended, contained the limitations deemed patentable by Examiner in the Office actions of October 3, 2007, April 14, 2008 & October 20, 2008. Accordingly, Claims 23-27 & 29-31 stand allowable.

Regarding the remaining claims, Applicants understand the position of Examiner to be as follows:

> (1) Geiger shows the steps of accessing a certificate bound to a processing device and authenticating the certificate, but does not show the steps of reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated, or configuring the processing device responsive to the configuration parameters;

> (2) Drew discloses reading configuration parameters from the certificate, if properly authenticated, and configuring the hardware responsive to the configuration parameters, but does not show setting one or more of (a) a speed of a hardware component of the processing device, (b) access to one or more otherwise inaccessible memory locations or (c) enablement of disablement of a hardware component;
> (3) Ylonen is used by the Examiner to show enablement or disablement of a hardware component, and hence would show the

step of "configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters to set **one** or more of: ... or **enablement or disablement of a hardware component** (see Advisory action dated February 19, 2009, page 2, argument within paragraph titled "Continuation of 13".

Indeed, Ylonen specifically discloses the following in the paragraph relied upon by Examiner:

> The invention provides methods for configuring virtual private network devices with minimal requirements for manual interaction. According to the invention, at least basic IP address information or an indication to use a dynamic address assignment protocol as well as an indication of how to obtain full configuration information are stored in a hardware token. A virtual private network device to read the information stored in the hardware token, obtain full configuration information in the hardware token, and to configure itself according to obtained configuration information (Ylonen, col. 4, lines 35-45).

Being that Examiner has determined on the record that the combination of Geiger and Ylonen does not teach or suggest, "configuring a processor speed of the hardware" and/or "configuring a memory speed for the device" (Office action dated October 20, 2008, page 14, lines 18-19), Examiner's rejection of the independent claims is based on the alternative limitation "ONE or more", which implies the claim language, "configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters to set **one** or more of: ... or **enablement or disablement of a hardware component**", as required by Claim 1, for example.

Applicants respectfully traverse Examiner's determination above that Ylonen teaches ""configuring the processing device hardware responsive to the configuration parameters to set **one** or more of: ... or **enablement or disablement of a hardware component**". Nevertheless, Applicants are desirous to obtain patent protection on this application that has been pending since July 2002. Accordingly,
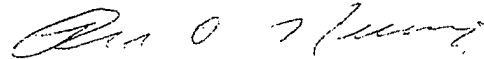
by this amendment independent Claims 1, 6, 12 and 17 have been amended to delete the above limitation determined by Examiner to be taught by the Ylonen. As a result, independent Claims 1, 6, 12 and 17 stand allowable being each contains at least one limitation deemed allowable by Examiner. Applicants, however, reserve the right to file a continuing application in order to further pursue the language currently deleted from the application.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 depend, directly or indirectly from respective allowable independent Claims 1, 6, 12 and 17. As such, Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22 and 28 are similarly allowable.

An amendment after a final rejection should be entered when it will place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. 37 C.F.R. 1.116; MPEP 714.12. This amendment places the case in condition for allowance. Even if, arguendo, this amendment did not place the case in condition for allowance, at a minimum, this amendment places the case in better form for appeal by placing the objected to claims in allowable condition. No new matter is introduced and no further consideration is required.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the remaining rejections and allowance of the application on Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-14, 16-19 and 21-31 at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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